

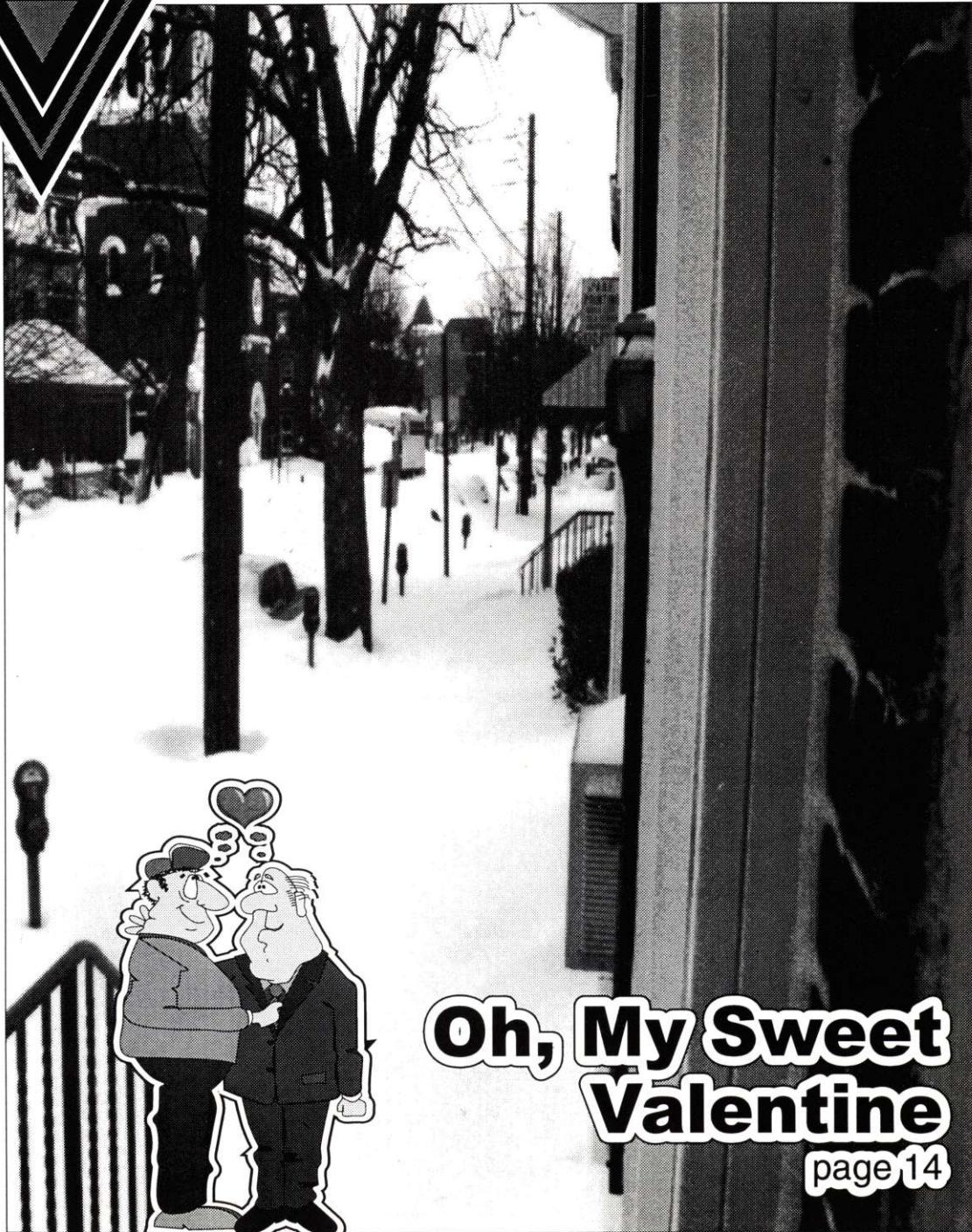
ABOVE ▼ GROUND

GROUND

Your Source for News & Views in and around the Lehigh Valley

Vol. 3 Issue 2

February 1996



**Oh, My Sweet
Valentine**

page 14

DIAMONZ



Proudly presents our first

Valentine's Ball

Enjoy dinner by candlelight with that special someone then romance to...

Darlene Birdsong

Singing your special requested love songs

• followed by •

DJ Lis

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Sunday, Feb. 11th

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- Reservations Available
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- Doors Open 6pm • Dinner 7pm • Entertainment 8pm



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ABOVE GROUND
PO Box 1656
Allentown, PA 18105-1656

Editor Speaks!

On the cover

View of Linden Street in Allentown after the infamous "Blizzard of '96"

For many, the winter storm of January 7 has already become a forgotten memory. Surely those of us who had to tough it out in the "Queen City" are feeling no loss of recent memory. After Mother Nature gave Allentown her best shot, she was the only one capable of curing the ill. There is no question in any Allentonian's mind (except perhaps the Mayor and a few other privileged few) that the city's efforts in dealing with the snow could at best rate a 1 on a scale of 20. Had it not been for the unseasonably warm weather that followed, we'd probably still be getting around in toboggans on one-lane/two-way streets. Hooray for the Mayor, at least he was able to get his street cleared.

M.Hemphill
Editor

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The businesses who advertise in AboveGround magazine make it possible to bring it to you each month. Just as they support our community and this publication, we urge you to support their businesses and to let them know that you saw their ad here, in AboveGround magazine.

A Look Back

A New Year, A New Queen

Saturday, December 23, Diamonz celebrated their third Anniversary of continuous business. A festive party drew the crowd out, sporting activities in all areas of the bar. A complimentary buffet was served in the game-room, a 1.3 karat diamond stud earring was given away in the disco, while Darlene Birdsong sang to a crowded room in the lounge.

Lenora, Diamonz' owner, noted that they had a record crowd for the party, and that they look forward to a great year ahead. They have plans to expand their outside area, currently used for volleyball tournaments, to include a picnic area. The disco will also see the arrival of Video in the near future.

We salute Diamonz in their accomplishment of 3 years business and wish them many more successful years.

On Thursday, January 25, just before this issue of AboveGround was sent on to print, Diamonz held their "Ms Diamonz" contest for the reigning title of 1996. An appreciative crowd cheered-on the seven contestants as they put on a rousing evening of entertainment. The winner of the crown was Corrine Michaels with Page Turner following closely as first runner up. Due to the late date of the Pageant, we were unable to provide pictures of the event, but we will present them, along with more of the evenings details, in the next issue. **Congratulations to Corrine on her triumphant performance!**

Candida
PRESENTS...

The 5th Annual
**NEWLYWED
GAME**

Wednesday
February 14
10 PM

hosted by
Ida Rosenberg

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Come watch the Fun!!*

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above:
Space Drag??... "It scares me!"
- Maxi Carter wows the Wall

FACT House Parties Big Success

Over the months of November, December and January, friends of FACT(Fighting AIDS Continuously Together) held various holiday parties to raise money for the organization. In all, five parties raised over \$5000.

Brian Marks, FACT President and House Parties co-chair with Robin Cook, noted that the House Parties will continue throughout the year for 1996 with a goal of \$9000 in funds raised. Although called the FACT House Parties, Marks explained that the fundraising parties can follow just about any format. There are already a couple of pool parties planned as well as a 4th of July Party.

If you are interested in hosting a "House Party" to help raise money for FACT, please contact Brian or Robin through the FACT office at (610)820-5519.

And mark your calendars for the next FACT sponsored event, "Casino for a Cause." The event is being planned for Saturday, March 30 and promises to be a great day of fun!

Poetry

[UNSENT LETTER, MADE PUBLIC]

Dear Jack,

Cactuses are sensitive. They need sunlight, and air, and water, and a lot of caring. Sometimes they need talking-to, and sometimes fertilizer; but after all is said and done, they're beautiful.

Several are at my kitchen window. One looks like the Easter-Bunny, in abstract; another like a cross between an artichoke and a rose; another like Jeff Stryker, for real; another, a green orange as a serrated, spinning top.

Seriously, the tea-pot is empty. Standing in the bathroom with the lights off, the moon and streetlights shine through the stained-glass windows; I'm listening to Smashing Pumpkins, and thinking I'm just happy to be here.

Yours,
Bill.

(William Benson)

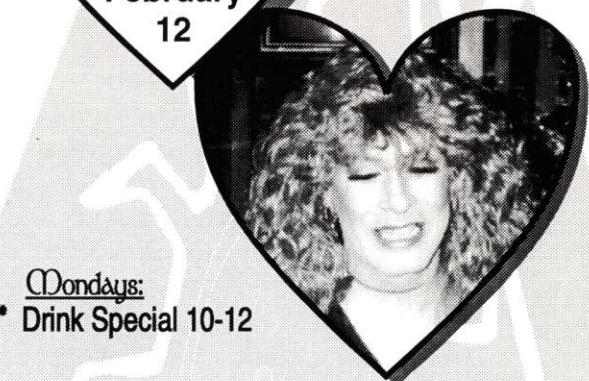
The Scarab

(610) 375-7878

Fab - Drag is back!!

Monday
February
12

Your hosts:
Brian (owner)
Keith (manager)



Mondays:

- Drink Special 10-12

Tuesdays:

- Drink Special 10-12
- Karaoke 10pm-2am

Thursdays:

- Drink Special 10-12
- Oldies Night
- DJ 10pm - 2am

Wednesdays:

- Special Happy Hour
- Coupon Night

Fridays and Saturdays:

- Special Happy Hour 8pm - 10pm
- DJ 10pm - 2am



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Coming Events

DATE	TYPE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
FEB. 3	L	KATE & CJ	9PM	DIAMONZ
3	S	THE OXY-MORONS	8-11PM	OPEN SPACE GALLERY
7	ST	MALE STRIPPERS	11PM	CARTWHEEL
7	D	TINSEL GARLAND	12AM	STONEWALL
8	B	MEN'S NIGHT OUT	CALL	B-TLS
8	***/F	DINING OUT FOR LIFE	5:30PM-11PM	CARTWHEEL
9	B	ALL WOMEN'S MUSIC NIGHT	CALL	B-TLS
10	L	DAMZELS	9PM	DIAMONZ
10	L	JIMMY LAWRENCE	8-9:30PM	OPEN SPACE GALLERY
10	***/F	THE RAINBOW BALL / BGLA	7-11PM	The Riveredge, READING
10	***/D	The 2nd Annual Miss Northern States	CALL	Warwick Hotel, PHILA.
11	***/P	LADIES Special Valentine's Party	CALL	CARTWHEEL
11	***/P	THE 1st Annual VALENTINE'S BALL	6PM	DIAMONZ
12	D	FABULOUS DRAG	CALL	SCARAB
14	meeting	GENERAL MEETING - LVGLTF	7:30PM	NCC
14	***/S	The 5th Annual NEWLYWED GAME	10PM	CANDIDA
14	D	TINSEL GARLAND	11PM	CARTWHEEL
14	***/D	SWEETHEART BALL w/ Maxi Carter	CALL	STONEWALL
16	***/P	The 2nd Annual MARDI GRAS PARTY	CALL	STONEWALL
16	***/S	EMMY GAY & BILL GRABER	11PM	STONEWALL
17	L	Don Horton's Sounds of the City	CALL	OPEN SPACE GALLERY
18	F	BINGO to benefit LVGLTF	3PM	DIAMONZ
18	***/L	THE IBAGUE BAND	7PM	DIAMONZ
18	F/D	The Girls of the Lehigh Valley for FACT	CALL	STONEWALL
19	meeting	GENERAL MEETING - LV-LGLV	CALL	CALL
21	ST	MALE STRIPPERS	11PM	CARTWHEEL
21	D	TINSEL GARLAND	12AM	STONEWALL
22	B	MEN'S NIGHT OUT	CALL	B-TLS
22	S	TALK SHOW TRAMPS (one show only)	11:30PM	STONEWALL
23	SO	Dancin' The Night Away	8-11PM	OPEN SPACE GALLERY
24	L	LAURA RICCABONO	9PM	DIAMONZ
27	F/SO	GAY & LESBIAN ROLLER SKATING	7:30PM-10:30PM	SKATEAWAY, Whitehall
28	D	TINSEL GARLAND	11PM	CARTWHEEL
28	***	SHEHECHIANU Theatre Workshop	CALL	OPEN SPACE GALLERY

EVENT TYPE CODES

P - PARTY L - LOUNGE/ LIVE VOCAL ST - STRIP SHOW S - MISC. SHOW SO - SOCIAL EVENT
 D - DRAG SHOW F - FUND-RAISER *** - SPECIAL EVENT B - BAR PROMO SP - SPORTS EVENT

Note: The Coming Events section is provided as a voluntary service to the community. Due to the chance of typographical error, schedule changes, or inadequate source information, we strongly suggest that you use it as a guide, and call the individual organizations for more information and/or confirmation.

goin' on
Weekly

SUNDAY

- KARAOKE / DIAMONZ / 9PM-2AM
- KARAOKE / STONEWALL / 10PM-2AM
- ELAINE PAXSON / CARTWHEEL

MONDAY

- ALL AGE NIGHT / STONEWALL / 10PM-2AM
- DRAG SEARCH w/ Monica Rey / CARTWHEEL

TUESDAY

- KARAOKE / DIAMONZ / 9PM
- KARAOKE / SCARAB / 10pm-2am
- LADIES NIGHT / CARTWHEEL (starting 2/13/96)

WEDNESDAY

- COUPON NIGHT / SCARAB
- MOVIE NIGHT / DIAMONZ
- POOL LEAGUE / CANDIDA 8PM

THURSDAY

- POOL LEAGUE / DIAMONZ / 8PM
- KARAOKE / DIAMONZ / 9PM-2AM
- OLDIES NIGHT / SCARAB
- KARAOKE / CANDIDA / 10PM-2AM
- CLASSIC DISCO / Cartwheel / 9pm
- Backgammon & Game Night / B-TLS

FRIDAY

- Country-Western/Diamonz/7:30-10:30PM
- DJ Request Night/Diamonz/10:30-2:00
- MICHAEL FERRERI/CARTWHEEL

SATURDAY

- ELAINE PAXSON / CARTWHEEL



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Once Married Lesbians

This article is based on another from the professional journal, *Journal of Counseling and Development*, dated Nov./Dec. 1994. The article was written by a doctoral student and an assistant professor in the counseling psychology department at Western Michigan University. They are Karen Bridges and James Croteau.

Bridges & Croteau address the issue of helping women who have undergone a significant life transition from heterosexual marriage to a lesbian life pattern. They challenge we psychotherapists to play an important role in "minimizing the pain and maximizing the growth in such a change" because we, as psychotherapists, are facilitators of life transitions. We are particularly called upon, through this article, to facilitate this process by helping the women to develop a positive identity as a lesbian; adapt to their relationships with female partners; and deal with work-related issues arising from the changed life patterns.

The article begins by addressing the diversity of experience among once-married lesbians. They note that theoretical and empirical literature have identified several reasons accounting for the fact that women who presently present as lesbians were once involved in heterosexual marriages. One obvious reason is what lesbian activist and writer Adrienne Rich refers to as "compulsive heterosexuality." This societal training may cause women to disregard cues that might lead them to seek other women as sexual partners. In addition to this, there is the added factor of a lack of awareness of the concept of homosexuality. Another factor, particularly prior to the 1960's, was an economic one. Women were, and still are in many situations, financially vulnerable, poverty could be a reality, and men were to

be depended upon (financial codependency). An understanding of how a woman came to marriage is an essential element for a therapist seeking to assist a woman's life transition.

A shift in sexuality can be explained in two general ways. One is the mere process of self-discovery. These are women who came to realize their lesbianism and acted upon their insight. This in no way means that they were not sincerely committed to motherhood and the nuclear family; their commitment was sincere, what wasn't applicable was the sexual aspect involved in heterosexual family life. A second explanation for the shift in sexuality is a choice approach. These women, politically aware, recognize freedom of choice. They perceive their ability to be lesbian, bisexual, celibate, or heterosexual. These were women who were aware of, and most likely involved in, women's culture and politics.

Bridges & Croteau address the idea that there are several types of life events that support the transition of the once-married lesbian. One typical life event was a serious illness either of the woman directly or of one of her parents. This caused serious self-examination and a determination to honor one's life path. Another life event was the ending of the marriage; again this was a trigger for re-evaluation of the meaning and direction of one's life. Another trigger life-event was a period in which they lived a celibate sexual life, involved themselves in activities without men, realized they could be happy without men being active in their lives. A fourth life-event was the women's movement which not only allowed but actively encouraged cognitive restructuring. A fifth life-event was coming to an accurate perspective and understanding of the lesbian stereotype. Therapists need to recognize this range of life-events that may stimulate reconsideration.

Although change and transition are common adult experiences, a significant change from heterosexual life to homosexual life touches all areas of a person's being. To ease the transition a therapist needs to help a client evaluate their resources and deficits in four major categories. These include evaluating the situation (expected or unexpected, voluntary or imposed); evaluating their sense of self; their support systems; and their strategies with coping with change.

Growth and change can be difficult for any of us. Those of us who have already made the transition need to be accepting of others who have just entered the transition process. We need to respect their fears, questions, uncertainties. We need to allow them to move at a pace that's comfortable for them. By respecting their pace we set a good example of the lesbian community, and their adjustment can proceed smoothly and positively.

Steve Black

Attorney

1322 Center Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610-865-7890

Vice Chair
League of Gay &
Lesbian Voters

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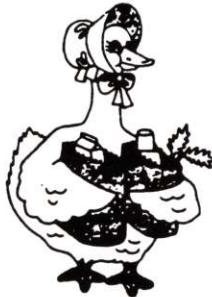
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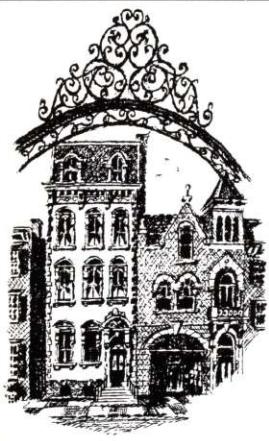
Sunday
Feb. 18
7pm - 2am

TICKETS
\$5 in advance
\$7 at the door

D
A
M
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Z

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Art



Every time the recking ball takes down a classic old building, we not only loose a piece of history, we are separated from a work of art. The beautiful workmanship; the vast vertical rises; the attention to details unheard of in today's construction. These were buildings of true pride, personality and charm.

No one is more aware of this shameful loss of our visual heritage than is Timothy George Hare, our featured artist for the month. Hare relocated to Easton in the mid-seventies almost by accident. While suffering



from a severe case of jet-lag, after returning from abroad, he was stopped over in Easton on his way back to Harrisburg, his hometown. Having just spent time in Australia, the historic city buildings of Easton reminded him of England and his fondness for its charm. He stayed on and opened his first gallery at 32 N. 3rd street in 1976.

Hare would move on to New York City a year later, but returned to Easton in the early Eighties. Since that time he has proven to be a strong force in slowing the ongoing demolition of the city's historic and unique architecture. As such, his somewhat accidental landing in the Lehigh Valley turned out to be a blessing to the area.

Many of Timothy Hare's artistic works have been dedicated to these and other architecturally unique buildings. His pen and ink drawings have gained international favor through publication in books both here and abroad. *Vanishing Ink*, his first book published, depicts images of Australia which he drew while they, almost literally in some cases, vanished before the ink could dry. A year later in 1976, his first book was published in this country, *Vanishing Ink-Pennsylvania*. In it, as in his later book; *Easton Inkscapes*, he has drawn images of area buildings and monuments that to him showed distinctive architectural beauty. Some of his pen & ink drawings are illustrated here within the article.

Hare's paintings, as his other works, have been shown in exhibitions and shows all over our area as well as abroad. Some of his current works, such as the painting shown at

Curt & Wally's ALL MALE GUEST HOUSE

SKI, SKATE, SHOP THE
HUGE FLEA MARKET
and stay at
Curt & Wally's Guest House
in Marshalls Creek.

(717) 223-1395

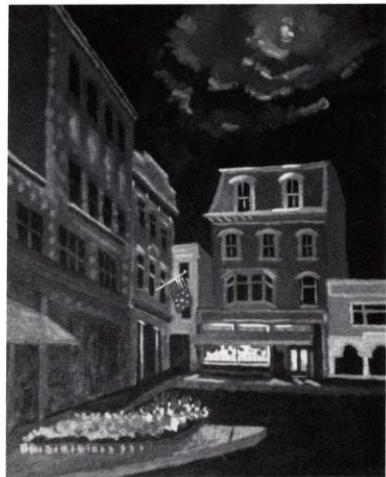
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Including Continental Breakfast
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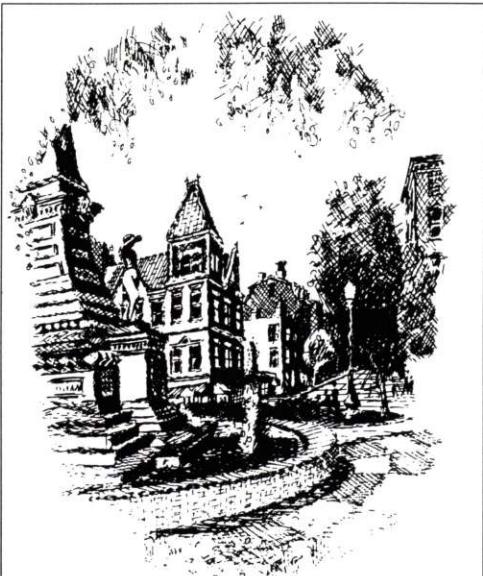
upper right, are currently available courtesy of the Connexions Fine Art & Antique Gallery located at 213 Northampton St., Easton. Although Hare does paint other subjects, the beauty of architecture often shows itself within them. A good example of this is his work titled "The Dis-



ease That Dare Not Speak Its Name." This painting, which he donated for auction to F.A.C.T. in 1992, depicts two sets of male nudes with the Dome of the Pennsylvania Capital Building looming in the center. The Nudes are modeled after the white marble sculptures that flank the front stairs of the actual building. The painting was purchased by the Stonewall bar in Allentown where it is often displayed in their disco.

Recently, Hare opened a new studio to the public at 241 Northampton Street, Easton. This marks the twentieth anniversary for Hare Fine Art Studios as well as that of his commitment to Easton's art and historic architecture. There will be a grand opening of the Studio on Saturday, March 30 from 4 PM to 7 pm. The celebration is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

If you would like more information about Timothy G. Hare works or the Studio hours, please call (610)515-0757.



SHOWINGS

The Blue Ribbon Gallery

78 Ney Alley

New Hope, PA

(215) 862-3622

Pastels by award winning

DRESSLER SMITH

Featured works of

MICHAEL ISKRA

acrylics - oils - pastels - etchings - nudes

Open Space Gallery

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Allentown, PA

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Alters, Shrines, & Totems

Continuing through March 2



B-TLS

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D.J. Dancing - Fridays & Saturdays: \$3.00 Cover

You must have your I.D. on your person at all times.

Friday, February 9

All Women's Music Night

We'll only be playing music by Women's Groups
<< Supremes - Go Go's - Indigo Girls - Etc >>

Building is available 6 days a week for private parties, holy union ceremonies, and special events.

Thoughts on a Pen Argyl Teacher and Sex Education by Steve Black

A Pen Argyl Middle School Teacher was suspended without pay for two weeks during the last school year when she answered three questions on sex during her health class. On December 13, 1994, Anita Kotoris, passed out slips of paper to her sixth grade health class and told the students they could write down any question and she would answer it. One of the questions asked her to explain sexual intercourse, two others asked about what gay men and lesbians do in bed, and another asked her to explain the sexual position 69. Ms. Kotoris answered all of the questions, just as she had promised the students.

Some of the students in the class told their parents of the days events. The parents complained to the Pen Argyl School District Administrators who conducted an investigation. The matter eventually was brought before the School Board which suspended Kotoris for two weeks without pay. Some parents of the children in the class were not satisfied with the board's decision. They began circulating a petition calling on the board to fire Kotoris. The petition, containing 165 signatures, was presented to the board during its November 1995 meeting. John Thorn, whose daughter was in the class, addressed the board saying, "Our children were extremely embarrassed and uncomfortable. In their words, they were completely grossed out... We feel Miss Kotoris' actions display a total disregard for the emotional capabilities and maturity of our children, we wonder if due to the graphic and explicit nature of this information, psychological and or emotional damage could result."

This school year several parents have pulled their children from Ms. Kotoris' 7th grade Sex Education course, and those students sit in the hallway doing homework for other courses. A new group, the Methodist Mothers, formed and has been pressuring the school district on this and other issues. The School Board has declined to take any further action on the issue, feeling that its suspension was sufficient. Ms. Kotoris has appealed the Board's suspension and the matter is going to arbitration.

The whole incident is tinged with homophobia. The controversy is a direct result of the School's curriculum not adequately including discussions of homosexuality, gay men and lesbians. This leaves students with questions and teachers at a loss for how or when to answer those questions. The district must be called on to answer this question: If the sixth grade course is not the appropriate time to address these questions, in what grade and in what course are discussions of homosexuality, gay men , lesbians and other sexual orientation appropriate.

While circulating their petitions, the parents told signers that the teacher was a lesbian. They played on stereotypes and fears about gay men and lesbians and children. They purposely tried to force the School Board to fire Ms. Kotoris because they perceive her to be a lesbian.

The administration and the district failed gay and lesbian students. Gay and lesbian students see a teacher perceived to be gay under attack. The students learned that

even mentioning gay men and lesbians has the possibility of getting a person fired. The school boards' action sends a chilling message to all teachers in Pen Argyl and in other districts. That message is "Do not discuss gay men and lesbians in the classroom." All teachers will now be reluctant to answer questions about gay men and lesbians, and even worse, they will be afraid to counsel gay and lesbian students who may be struggling with their sexual orientation. Teachers will fear the will come under public attack or lose their job.

I wonder how traumatized the students actually were. Apparently, some of the students had thought about or heard about gays and lesbians before. I know 11 and 12 years olds watch Roseanne and Oprah. Certainly it is not a shock that gay men and lesbians exist. I am sure each of those students has heard more explicit conversations about homosexuality on the school bus than anything Ms. Kotoris said in her class.

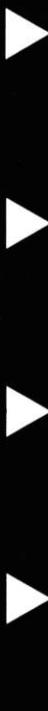
Ms. Kotoris should be commended for having the courage to answer student's questions. She made a promise to her class that she would answer each and every question. She fulfilled her promise. She assured the students that she would give them the information that they wanted. She chose to provide her students with information rather than allowing them to remain ignorant on the subject. Certainly, her answers were short and the subject of sexual orientation deserves more attention to detail than the quick answers Ms. Kotoris provided. Our schools must move to provide more information on homosexuality, gay men, lesbians and other issues surrounding sexual orientation through the curriculum. And yes, this should start as early as the 6th Grade.

In 1992 the State Board of Education amended the regulations governing Pennsylvania's schools. The regulations prohibit discrimination in educational programs on the basis of sexual orientation. Educators make a mistake by approaching sex education with the assumption that all students are heterosexual. This fails gay and lesbian students by not providing them with a comprehensive sexuality education that includes the information on their needs. Gay and lesbian students must be given the information and knowledge about themselves and their bodies and feelings. This will help students struggling with their sexual orientation.

NOTE: The Lehigh Valley Gay and Lesbian Task Force is attempting to schedule a meeting with administrators in the Pen Argyl School District to discuss issues of discrimination and inclusions of homosexuality in the school sex education curricula.

(Steve Black is a Bethlehem Attorney who serves as Vice Chair of the Pennsylvania League of Gay and Lesbian Voters. He also served on the Pen Argyl School Board from Dec. 1991 until Oct. 1994.)

Where the Big Boys Play !



Saturday, Feb. 3 & 17

MICHAEL OGBORN

In the Lounge 10:30-1:30

Wednesday, Feb. 7 & 21

TINSEL GARLAND

Showtime - Midnight

Wednesday, Feb. 14

SWEETHEART'S BALL

with **MAXI CARTER**

& the Girls Behind the Wall

Friday, Feb. 16

The 2nd Annual

MARDI GRAS PARTY

featuring

EMMY GAY &

BILL GRABER

in "*No Family Values*"

Thursday, Feb. 22

One Night Only!!

TALK SHOW TRAMPS

11:30 in the Disco

Sunday, Feb. 18

The Girls of the Lehigh Valley

Benefit for F.A.C.T.

Saturday, Feb. 24

MICHAEL FERRERI

In the Lounge 10:30-1:30



photo: © David Mays

STONEWALL

28-30 N. 10th Street Allentown, PA 18101 610-432-0215

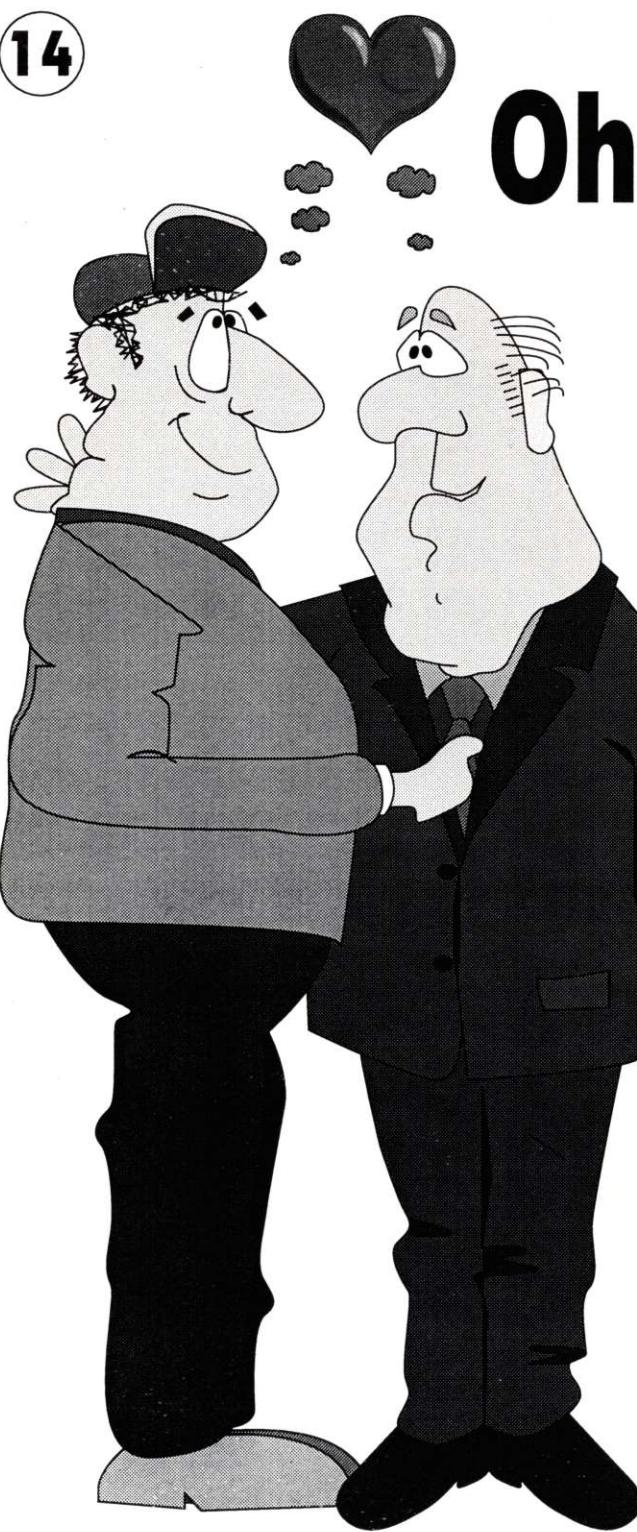
Dance



Eat



Play



Oh, My Sweet Valentine !

"Oh, sweet mystery of life at last I found Yooou, ... now get off that lazy butt and get me something, or your whereabouts will be the mystery!"

Yes, it's that special time of year once again. That time where we do our best to show that special someone just how much we care. Extravagant gifts, pounds of chocolates, sweet smelling flowers. Many people think that there can be nothing worse than to be single on St. Valentine's Day. No romantic dinners, no cooing over candle-lit, champagne toasts, ...no running for the door before the frying pan (that you bought) hits you!! What about those poor individuals who are going to end up single before Valentine's Day is over? You know, the ones who forgot to buy a gift or, worse yet, brought home something that hit a bad nerve. Perhaps you've had a sweetheart who fell into that category, or possibly you've been the bearer of less than loving gifts from time to time.

Unfortunately there is no sure thing that works in every situation. Careful research must be done to make sure that the gift you present will not present a problem. Here are a few bad ideas that have been compiled into our top ten list for the month.

Top Ten Things NOT to buy as a Valentine's gift

- 10. Edible underwear with a bite-mark already showing**
-this isn't something you should have the sales clerk demonstrate the use of.
- 9. A 6-Month membership to Porky's Fitness Farm**
-could be that a box of chocolates would work better here.
- 8. A Living Pet Of Any Kind**
-as hard as you have to work for attention, you don't want to be forced to share it.
- 7. A Four Course Meal at McDonalds**
-a memorable meal doesn't mean you have to see it twice.
- 6. That Beautiful 20 Karat Cubic Zirconium Ring from the Home Shopping Club**
-diamonds are a "girls" best friend, not sugar crystals grown on a string.
- 5. Chocolate Covered Mothballs**
-really, buying candy at the "Dollar" store!
- 4. Sex Toys Bigger Than You Are**
-better have a key to the bedroom, if you ever want to get back in there.
- 3. A Bottle Of MAD DOG 20/20**
-you'll need 20/20 vision to get away from the mad dog you'll create.
- 2. A Framed Picture Of Yourself**
-dart boards shouldn't be framed
- 1. Flowers From The 7-11**
-most people know what dead flowers look like.

DO IT
RIGHT THIS
VALENTINE'S
DAY!

♥ GREAT FOOD,
♥ YOUR WINE,
♥ COMFORTABLE
SPACE

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FEBRUARY 14

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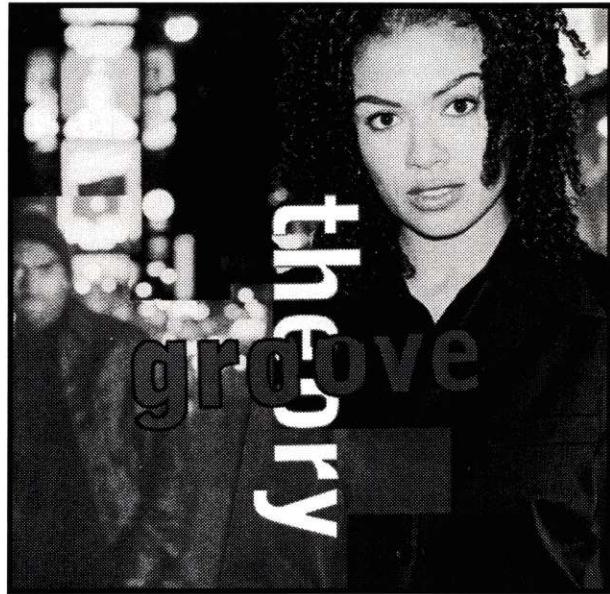


by
C. Robert Frank

Title: Protection

Artist: Massive Attack

Let's face it, walking into a CD store can be a confusing, if not frightening, experience. Thousands of artists scream, "Save my recording contract, BUY ME!" With your head in a spin, you grab Mariah Carey and make a break for the register. Protection has already had its one year anniversary, but now may be the perfect time to grab your copy. Madonna's sultry "I want you" from her Something To Remember album is blessed with Massive Attack's rhythm. Everything But The Girl's lead singer, Tracy Thorn, makes two guest appearances on Protection. Get the picture?! Massive Attack Protection is not Gangsta Rap as their name might suggest, and it's not hard core as the cover art might suggest. Protection is a steamy and seductive collection of rhythms graced by some of the finest vocalists. Throw in Nellee Hooper's often magical touch and you have a massive work of art.



Title: Groove Theory

Artist: Groove Theory

Without the proper push and shove, "Tell Me" could, unfortunately, make Groove Theory a one hit wonder band. Songs with socially aware themes (such as this album's "10 Minute High" and "Boy At The Window") often have a difficult time finding the airwaves. The biggest shame is that they are the finest works on Groove Theory. As a whole, Groove Theory only falls short on two cuts whose names I've already forgotten. Why? Because there are twelve other glorious cuts to focus on. If you grabbed Repercussions or Brand New Heavies last year, Groove Theory will keep you Jazz Hoppin' in '96!



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BILL GRABER**
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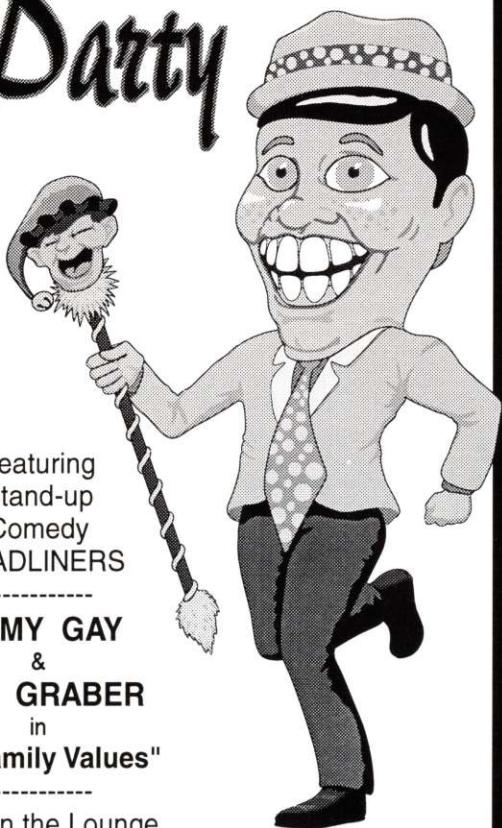
"No Family Values"

11PM in the Lounge

Friday, Feb. 16

STONEWALL

28-30 N. 10th Street Allentown, PA 18101 610-432-0215



DJ's TOP TEN

DJ : Cruz
Club: B-TLS / Harrisburg

1. Missing
EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL
2. Be My Lover
LA BOUCHE
3. Did You Ever Really Love Me?
NICKI FRENCH
4. Passion Of The Night
CLUBZONE
5. Set You Free
PLANET SOUL
6. I Kissed A Girl
JILL SOUBLE
7. Fairground
SIMPLY RED
8. Every Shade Of Blue
BANANARAMA
9. Missing
NO MERCY
10. Electric Boogie
(Queen of the Night Mix)
MARICA GRIFFITHS
(add. prod. & rmx by DJ Heidi Linn)

DJ : Michael De Cero
Club: CARTWHEEL / New Hope

1. Movin' Up
DREAMWORLD
2. When You Need Somebody
GLADEEZ
3. The Love That You Are
PULSE
4. Energy
DEVONE
5. This Time Around (uno clito mix)
MICHAEL JACKSON
6. Who Do U Love
DEBORAH COX
7. Lift Me Up
CONNIE & JUNIOR
8. Hot Shot
YOUNG GIRL
9. One By One
CHER
10. The New Anthem
NJOI

DJ : Casey
Club: SCARAB / Reading

1. Be My Lover
LA BOUCHE
2. Running Around Town
BILLIE RAY MARTIN
3. Take Me Higher
DIANA ROSS
4. Boriqua Anthem
C&C MUSIC FACTORY
5. A Mover La Concita
ARTIE
6. Set U Free
PLANET SOUL
7. Beautiful Life
ACE OF BASE
8. Passion Of The Night
CLUBZONE
9. Missing
NO MERCY
10. Same Thing In Reverse
BOY GEORGE

DJ : David Petrella
Club: STONEWALL / Allentown

1. Itchy Coo Park
M PEOPLE
2. Shoot Me With Your Love
D:REAM
3. Earth Song
MICHAEL JACKSON
4. Be My Lover
LA BOUCHE
5. Let There Be Light
MIKE OLDFIELD
6. The New Anthem
NJOI
7. Imitation Of Life
BILLIE RAY MARTIN
8. The Winding Song
DOUBLE PLUS GOOD
9. Hideaway
DE' LACY
10. Ethyl's Little Trip
CHLOR-RIDE

REQUEST

DJ : Lis Flynn
Club: DIAMONZ / Bethlehem

1. Lick It
ROULLA
2. It's A Beautiful Life
ACE OF BASE
3. To Deserve You
BETTE MIDLER
4. Sexual Healing
MAX-A-MILLION
5. Earth Song
MICHAEL JACKSON
6. Missing
EVERYTHING
BUT THE GIRL
7. Tonight Is The Night
CHIC
8. Be My Lover

9. One Sweet Day
MARIAH CAREY
& BOYZ TO MEN
10. You'll See
MADONNA

VIDEO

VJ : Mitzi D
Club: STONEWALL / Allentown

1. Be My Lover (spike mix)
LA BOUCHE
2. Everybody Be Somebody
UFFNECK
3. Freaks
LIPPY LOU
4. To Deserve You (rmx)
BETTE MIDLER
5. Running Around Town (rmx)
BILLIE RAY MARTIN
6. Try Me Out (bonus mix)
CORONA
7. Magic Carpet Ride
THE MIGHTY DUB KATS
8. Toccata & Fugue (rmx)
VANESSA-MAE
9. I Am Ready
SIZE 9
10. Take Me Higher (rmx)
DIANA ROSS

Theatre & Performing Arts

Playing This Month

Pennsylvania Playhouse

JAKE'S WOMEN

Continuing through Feb. 11
for info call:(610)865-6665

Moravian College

THE SON OF ARLECHINO

Feb. 2-11

for info call:(610)861-1489

State Theatre

MANDY PATINKIN

February 4, 7pm

for info call:(610)252-3132

Touchstone Theatre

KRAZY KAT

Feb. 6-10

BLUFF

Feb. 13-17

THE BUDDY PERFORMANCE

Feb. 20-24

for info call:(610)867-1689

Theatre Outlet

THE SWAN

Feb. 8-25

for info call:(610)820-9270

Albright College

THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING

Feb. 9-17

for info call:(610)921-7547

Cedar Crest College

SCHEHERAZADE

Feb. 10-25

for info call:(610)606-4608

Allentown College Theatre

SCULLERS

Feb. 21-Mar. 3

for info call:282-3192

Muhlenberg College Theatre

OLEANNA

Feb. 21, 23 & 25

SUBURBIA

Feb. 22, 24 & 25

for info call:(610)821-3333

Dark Horse Rides into the Valley

A new acting company has formed in the Lehigh Valley. The Dark Horse Theatre Company resides at the Roxy Theater in Northampton and offers children's productions as well as other theatrical productions throughout the year.

The Dark Horse Theatre Company is composed of regular and special education teachers, mental health professionals, and others who are members of Lehigh Valley businesses. All the members of the company have had experience in either professional or community theater. Artistic Director, Lori Savick, has acted in film and community theater. She has been an officer on the executive committee for the Pennsylvania Playhouse. Lori has been employed by Bethlehem Area School District for the past ten years as an elementary teacher. Artistic Director, Rob Adams, received his BA in theater from Allentown College and has acted, directed, and been involved in other capacities with many theatrical productions. He has been employed in the mental health field at Vitalistic Therapeutic Center in Bethlehem for the last nine years. Rob is also a member of the National Association for Drama Therapy.

In February 1996 the Dark Horse Theatre Company will be offering a delightful and imaginative children's revue with music called "Magic Theatre" written by Saundra Mathews-Deacon. This play is suitable for children in grades pre-K through four, and is an interactive series of vignettes that deal with social/emotional issues such as cooperation, peace, conflict resolution, and appreciation of diversity. "Magic Theatre" has been well received by both children and critics. The Los Angeles Times acclaimed it as one of the best shows of the year. The hour long show will run on February 15, 17, 18, 22 and 24 at varying times with all seating for general admission being \$4. For more information please call 261-4351.



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Thursday

Feb. 8

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of Philadelphia

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LADIES SPECIAL VALENTINE'S PARTY



**Sunday
February 11**

*Bring your Sweetheart
...or meet her here!*

Oh yes it's...

LADIES NIGHT

Every Tuesday

(beginning February 13)

Come out and join the fun!

It's all happening at...

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of course!

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Hand Job

by Dr. John Cochran

Computers put a different slant on the term manual labor. Click, click, click on a computer key board seems a benign way to work but it can cause a painful, debilitating physical condition called carpal tunnel syndrome.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is a type of repetitive strain injury. The carpal tunnel is an area created by the configuration of the wrist bones. The bones of the wrist come together in the shape of a shallow valley. Passing through this shallow valley of bone are nine tendons. These tendons begin in muscles located in the forearms that help create the movement of the fingers. The median nerve, which brings feeling to the thumb, index, middle and half of the ring finger, also passes through the carpal tunnel. Capping the carpal tunnel is a tough strap of ligament called the flexor retinaculum. With all of these bones, tendons and nerves coming together in this manner, the carpal tunnel is a very crowded area.

As the fingers move, the tendons controlling that movement glide back and forth under the flexor retinaculum. If this area becomes irritated, the tendons can swell, squeezing the median nerve as they pass through the carpal tunnel.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome most recently has been associated with the pervasive use of computers in the workplace, but it was first identified in the 19th century. It became a well known entity in the 1940s and 1950s when the frequency of cases where median nerve compression at the wrist increased and the surgical treatment was well understood. As a work-related disorder, CTS is shared with data processors, artists, machinists and many other people whose occupations or hobbies require precise, repetitive and movements

Many sufferers of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome experience a considerable amount of discomfort in the forearm, upper arm, armpit, shoulder and neck. It should also be noted that a misalignment of the cervical spine can cause an irritation of the median nerve mimicking the same discomfort. Common symptoms include weakness, aching, burning, limited range of motion, numbness and tingling. All of these symptoms as stated can be caused by restriction of the fascia of the upper body in association with a vertebral subluxation. Weakness, aching and limited range of motion are often caused by restriction in the fascia as it permeates through muscle tissue. Burning, numbness and tingling can be caused when the fascia covering nerve tissue becomes stressed.

Another cause is when a previous wrist fracture has healed slightly out of position. Young mothers are affected during pregnancy when the tissues and sometimes the nerve in the carpal tunnel swell. Usually this clears after delivery, but may not always. It can run in families and is more common among women than men. Although CTS symptoms are widely publicized, the disorder may be overlooked because older people attribute the pain to arthritis or old age. "Carpal Tunnel Syndrome starts generally in the 40s, but people in their 20s with high demand jobs come in for help, and sometimes both hands are affected. The real tragedy is that people with CTS can be helped, but delaying treatment can lead to permanent nerve or muscle damage." There are many ways the problem of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome can be approached. First, non-surgical means of relieving the pain including chiropractic care, and exercises, night splints, anti-inflammatory drugs, or injection directly into the carpal tunnel should be tried. These methods of treatment can relieve the symptoms for a large percentage of CTS patients. If non-surgical methods do not work within a 6 month to a year's time there is surgery which becomes necessary in about one-forth to one-third of the cases. For the surgery,

called carpal tunnel release, the surgeon relieves the pressure on the median nerve by cutting the transverse ligament, allowing more room in the carpal tunnel and, if necessary, removing the tendon synovium if it is excessive. The surgery is done on an outpatient basis with either local or general anesthetic. Follow-up care may include rehabilitation exercises to improve strength circulation and range of motion.

The key to relieving carpal tunnel syndrome is early detection. A Chiropractor, Osteopaths or an M.D. should be able to perform simple tests to determine the cause of the problem. A conservative approach should always be considered first. In many cases specially designed stretching exercises given to the

(610) 433-6260



David A. Nicholls

609 HAMILTON MALL
ALLENTOWN, PA 18101

ATTORNEY AT LAW

patient by any of the above mention health care providers can result in a very high relief for sufferers of carpal tunnel syndrome as well as other repetition strain injuries. By practicing the exercises suggested for the symptoms a patient can begin the process of restoring the body to its normal comfortable and full, function state.

Dr. Cochran is a practicing chiropractor with offices Valley Plaza at 1874 Catasauqua Road next to Service Merchandise.

If you have a medical question you would like answered by one of AboveGround's contributing writers, please send it to: "To Your Health" c/o AboveGround Magazine, P.O. Box 1656 Allentown, PA 18105-1656.

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Tuesday, February 27

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Lehigh & MacArthur Rds
Whitehall, PA

7:30pm - 10:30pm

\$5.00

Tuesday, March 26

Skateaway Roller Rink
4500 William Penn Highway
Bethlehem, PA

7:30pm - 10:30pm

\$5.00



a benefit for
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COMICS



THE DRAG QUEENS

I REALLY LIKE THIS GUY I SLEPT WITH... I'M GOING TO GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER... HIS HOPES... DREAMS... HIS LAST NAME...



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Bethlehem, PA 18018
610.865.1006

Complimentary Issue Outlets

Victim of Discrimination Because You are Gay or Lesbian? Let Your Story be Heard!

Has anyone ever harassed you at work because you are gay or lesbian? Have you had to listen to derogatory jokes about gays but kept quiet about it because you were afraid to speak up? Have your employers made you feel if you were out at work you would lose your job, how did they make you feel this way? Have you ever lost your job because of your sexual orientation?

How about housing? Have you ever been denied a place to live because you are gay or lesbian? Have you been harassed by your neighbors? What about mortgages, leases or housing loans? Have you ever been denied those because of your sexual orientation?

Discrimination doesn't have to be blatant to be real. If you have had to work with a co-worker who was openly hostile toward gays, that's discrimination. Did you ever have a supervisor tell you to try harder to get along with a bigot, rather than telling the bigot to practice tolerance in the workplace? Think carefully about why you are not out at work, have you already experienced some type of discrimination that has made you afraid for your job?

The Lehigh Valley Chapter of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters wants to hear your story. They need personal accounts of discrimination in the Allentown area to recount to local government members in support of the need for an anti-discrimination ordinance. You do not have to give your name, and your story will be confidential unless you choose otherwise. Contact Liz Bradbury or Trish Sullivan, coordinator of the Voter's League, at 432-5449 and tell them your story.

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WALBERT AVENUE MEDICAL CENTER
2428 WALBERT AVE.
ALLENTOWN, PA 18104

ALLENTOWN

Candida
247 N. 10th St.

Grace Covenant
Fellowship
247 N. 10th St.

MCC/Lehigh Valley
@ St. John's UCC
6th & Walnut Sts.
(Sun.Eves. only)

Open Space Gallery
913 Hamilton Mall

Seattle Espresso
722 Hamilton Mall

Stonewall /
Moose Lounge
28-30 N. 10th St.

BETHLEHEM
DiamonZ
1913 W. Broad St.

EASTON
Hare Art Studio
241 Northampton St.
2nd Fl.

EMMAUS
The Book Rack
705 Chestnut St.

HARRISBURG
B-TLS
891 Eisenhower Blvd.

Stallions
706 N. 3rd Street

HELLERTOWN

Zeitgeist Bei
Wassergass
3952 Lower Saucon Rd.

NEW HOPE
The Book Gallery
Mechanic Street

Blue Ribbon Gallery
78 Ney Alley

The Cartwheel
Route 202

The Raven
385 West Bride St.

PHILADELPHIA
Giovanni's Room
345 s. 12th St.

READING
The Scarab
724 Franklin St.

WHITEHALL
Barnes & Noble
Bookstore
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WILKES-BARRE
Babes'
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Horrorscoops

by Evil Esther



AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb.18

Remain objective, it is your strong point. Events unfold this month that will challenge your faith in others. Keep your eyes open, and your heart. Pisces native is at the center of the controversy. Time away is the key.



PISCES
Feb.19-March 20

Memories are made this month! Take a mental picture of the faces you meet this month, the stars say one of them might be the one! Take every chance to get to know new people, put yourself in the spotlight.



ARIES
March 21-April 19

Be your own Valentine. That recent break-up was meant to happen for a good reason. Time alone isn't time wasted this month. Don't let the happiness of friends make you feel less than loved.



TAURUS
April 20-May 20

Why wait? Take the chance you've been thinking about recently and turn it into a romantic surprise! You will not be disappointed by the results. Timing is everything, seize the moment.



GEMINI
May 21-June 20

Are you still focused on attaining that recent goal? Your immediate future depends on what you do by the end of this month. Be honest to yourself about what you want. It's later than you think!



CANCER
June 21-July 22

Cupid doesn't have his bow aimed at you - so what?!? Who wants a dart in the backside anyway? This is the time to spend on yourself, not worrying about that relationship that keeps eluding you.



LEO
July 23-Aug.22

Stop and look inside yourself. See what is there? Others see it too, and this is both good and bad. Success in any situation starts with the ability to realize your limitations and shortcomings. A friend is there to see you through.



VIRGO
Aug.23-Sept.22

Work seems to be eating away at you this month. Some time off isn't recommended now, but plan for the middle of March. Stick to it and it will soon pass. Good things are around the corner.



LIBRA
Sept.23-Oct.22

Don't let the cold weather slow you down this month. Find new things to do to kick the winter blues. There is a whole world out there waiting for you to become a part of it. Try new things.



SCORPIO
Oct.23-Nov.21

Passion highlighted this month for you! Physical relationship takes a turn for the permanent, are you ready? Don't let the moment pass you by, it could be fun like this for the rest of your life!



SAGITTARIUS
Nov.22-Dec.21

There is still a cloud hanging over you financially. Make sure your investments are sound, and don't forget about that nest-egg! Things will clear towards the end of the month. Hang in there!



CAPRICORN
Dec.22-Jan.19

The future will happen regardless of the past and despite the present. Your birthday wasn't all you'd hoped it would be, but look to the gifts you have and put them to use. Let it ride, for now.

News from LGLV

Lesbians and Friends

LGLV has canceled its Lesbians and Friends Dance that was scheduled for Feb. 10. LGLV encourages everyone to attend the Rainbow Ball sponsored by the Berks County Gay and Lesbian Alliance in Reading instead. The Lesbian and Friends events will resume at a later date. For more info call Liz Bradbury and Trish Sullivan at (610)432-5449.

Voter Registration

March 25 is the last day to register to vote before the Primary Elections. Anyone who needs to register should contact the League of gay and lesbian Voters at (610)432-5449. Voter Registration forms will also be available at Diamonx and Stonewall. This year we will be electing the President, Congressman, and State Representatives.

Community Resources

Bars / Clubs

ALLENTOWN

Candida
247 N. 12th St.
610-434-3071

Stonewall & Moose Lounge
28-30 N. 10th St.
610-432-0215

BETHLEHEM

Diamonx
1913 W. Broad St.
610-865-1028

HARRISBURG B-TLS

891 Eisenhower Blvd.
717-939-1123

Neptune Lounge
268 North St.
717-233-3078

Stallions

706 N. 3rd St.
717-232-3060

NEW HOPE
Cartwheel
Route 202
215-862-0880

Raven
385 W. Bridge St.
215-862-2081

READING *Scarab*

724 Franklin St.
610-375-7878

Bars / Clubs continued

WILKES-BARRE

Babes'
1267 Main St.
Port Griffith-Pittston
717-883-7877

Selections

45 Public Square
717-829-4444

AIDS Related Organizations

AIDS Outreach
112 N. 5th St.
Allentown, PA 18102
610-435-8424

AIDS Services Center

60 W. Broad St.
Suite 205
Bethlehem, PA 18108
610-974-8701

Allentown Health Bureau -HIV testing

245 N. 6th St.
Allentown, PA 18102
(contact David Moyer)
610-437-7742

FACT

P.O. Box 1028
Allentown, PA 18105
610-820-5519

FACT Bucks County

P.O. Box 616
Buckingham, PA 18912

Latino AIDS Outreach

610-861-6845

Community/Social Organizations

Lehigh Valley Gay & Lesbian Task Force
P.O. Box 20253
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
610-515-1551

Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus
P.O. Box 20712
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
610-740-0247
610-821-0578

Lehigh Valley Lesbians
Bethlehem, PA
610-253-5454

North Eastern Pennsylvania TransGender Assoc.
P.O. Box 3694
Easton, PA
18043-3694
610-821-2955
E-mail: Gendrfrend@aol.com

P-Flag
215-368-2473
215-234-4049

PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley
P.O. Box 20804
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
610-770-6200

Velvet Spikers
volleyball-tennis
P.O. Box 21862
Lehigh Valley, PA
18002-1862
610-434-2966

Religious Affiliations

Grace Covenant Fellowship
247 N. 10th St.
Allentown, PA 18102
610-740-0247

Hope Ministries
Rev. Bob J. Forté
610-791-0716
24 hrs.-leave message.

Integrity
610-395-1785
610-758-8642

MCC of the Lehigh Valley
-worship at St. John's UCC
6th & Walnut Sts.
Allentown, PA 18102
610-439-8755

Phoenix Ministries, ULC Inc.
Rev. Joél S. Diehl, DD,MsD.
610-433-5325 leave message

Community/Social Organizations

Berks Gay & Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 417
Reading, PA 19603-0417
610-373-0674

Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley
Bethlehem, PA
610-439-8755

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters
Lehigh Valley Chapter
P.O. Box 20781
Lehigh Valley, PA
18002-0781
610-432-5449

If your organization would like to be listed in AboveGround Magazine, Call (610)821-1321 or write P.O. Box 1656 Allentown, PA 18105-1656

ABOVE V GROUND

Your Source for News & Views in and around the Lehigh Valley

- male friends female friends help wanted services
- for sale messages roommates wanted pets
- real estate-rent real estate-sale misc other

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cost of lines X number of issues=

Anything submitted to AboveGround must be received by the 15th of the month to be published in the following months issue. Anything received after that date will be held over to the next issue.

Name(optional) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone(optional) _____

**If you would like a full-issue-copy of your ad, include \$1.50 for P&H

AboveGround reserves the right to edit ads as needed or to refuse any ad for any reason. You must be 18 or older to place or respond to any ad.

ABOVE V GROUND

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Rates: 1 Year (12 issues) \$24.00 - 2 Year (24 issues) \$45.00 - 3 Year (36 issues) \$ 65.00

SAVE \$3

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NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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Send check or money order, made payable to: **COBALT BLUE**

P.O. Box 1656 Allentown, PA 18105-1656

P.O. Box 1656

Allentown, PA 18105-1656

CLASSIFIEDS

27

MALE FRIENDS

Let's Celebrate 1996 as New Friends!! Nice Looking / Sincere / Fit / Down-to-Earth / Sensuous / Naughty / 5'8" / 52 / 165# / GWM.

Seeking similar / local / younger / GWM for Lasting Friendship or Possible Monog. Relationship as Lovers.

I do not do drugs / smoke or frequent bars. Enjoy quiet times ++.

(610)867-4707
(Bethlehem)

GBM / 28 / seeks younger hispanic "homeboy"

Send only serious inquiries with recent photo to Alex, 831 Linden St. 1F
Allentown, PA 18102

FEMALE FRIENDS

OUTRAGEOUS LESBIANS
WE: DANCE, Laugh, Play,
Read, Camp, ARE OUT!
"Rox" flicks, Karma,
Spicy food and Life
No Smoke, Hate, Fear.
ME: Active / Attractive
body-mind-heart-soul
PO Box 97
Coply, PA 18037

ROOMMATES

Bethlehem, PA
GWM Looking to share
2 Bedroom APT
No Pets
Call 610-807-9799

GROUPS

Gay Artist's Weekly
Discussion Group Now
Forming in Easton.
Call: 610-515-0757

MODELS

MATTHIAS -PORN MODEL
Pics-\$10, Video-\$20,
Other items Avail. upon
requests.
Photo-strip sessions Avail.
Write w/Check or Money
Order to:
MATTHIAS, P.O. Box 6615
Wyomissing, PA 19610

FOR SALE

Dance away the Winter
Blues!!
Dance Tapes for All Partiers!
Over 20 tapes to choose...
...From Classic Disco to
House.
Call: DJ CHRIS
For catalog
610-435-9383

HELP WANTED

Make Extra \$\$\$ in your Spare
Time!

AboveGround is looking for a
few Responsible Persons to
sell Ad Space in the following
areas:

LEHIGH VALLEY
HARRISBURG
NEW HOPE
PHILADELPHIA
READING
WILKES-BARRE
SCRANTON
Call: (610)821-1321
Leave Message.

DOWNTOWN WILKES-BARRE

SELECTIONS



Open Monday thru Saturday 7:00pm to 2:00am

#1 DANCE CLUB IN N.E. PENNSYLVANIA

- Superior BOSE Sound System
- Best JBL Video System
- Spectacular MARTIN Computerized Lighting & Lasers
- Hot House Dancers

Special Nightly Events - Call For information
Local Hotel with Pool and SELECTIONS Discount
Directly Behind our 700 Space Free Parking Lots!

**If HE'S NOT AT SELECTIONS ...
HE'S DEFINITELY OUT OF TOWN!**

(717) 829-4444

Don't take
the chance
of missing
a single
issue of
AboveGround!!

Fill out
the form
at left
and send
it in Today!

PRETTY, PRETTY
VALENTiNE!



AMERICAN HAIRLINES
882-9848